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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 09486 291211Z

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AEC-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02

NSAE-00 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01 SP-02 TRSE-00

FRB-01 AGR-10 XMB-04 OPIC-06 /078 W
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R 271130Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1113

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 9486

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, IV
SUBJECT: POWER GENERATION

REF: STATE 256173

1. EQUIPMENT CURRENTLY BEING PURCHASED IS FUNCTION OF FINANCING. EXTENSION OF THERMAL CAPACITY AT VRIDI(ABIDJAN) HAS ITALIAN FINANCING. EQUIPMENT ALREADY NEGOTIATED. ADDITIONAL PROJECT FOR $110 MILLION HYDROELECTRIC COMPLEX ON BANDAMA RIVER BEING STUDIED BY KAISER ENGINEERS WHO HAVE ENGINEERING CONTRACT. EXIM BANK PRELIMINARY COMMITTMENT FOR $70 MILLION FOR THIS PROJECT OFFERS GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO AMERICAN SUPPLIERS. MAJOR PROJECTS DIVISION OF DEPT. OF COMMERCE HAS FURTHER DETAILS. SMALLER PURCHASES OF DIESEL GENERATOR SETS HAVE VARYING FINANCING AND ATTRACTIVE OFFER BY ANY SUPPLIER STANDS CHANCE.

2. ONE LARGE SYSTEM LINKS ABIDJAN AREA AND BOUAKE AREA WHILE SERVING AGRIBUSINESS AND TEXTILE INDUSTRY THROUGH CENTER OF COUNTRY. THIS GRID HAS INSTALLED CAPACITY OF 325 MEGAWATTS OF WHICH 224 IS HYDROELECTRIC AND 101 THERMAL. PRODUCTION FOR 1973(724 MEGAWATTS HOURS) WAS 77 PERCENT THERMAL AND 23 PERCENT HYDRO. (KOSSOU DAM IS 174 MEGAWATT
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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 09486 291211Z

PEAKING STATION). ANOTHER 110 DIESEL GENERATORS ACCOUNT FOR

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

35 MEGAWATTS OF INSTALLED CAPACITY.

3. MAJOR FIRM REQUIREMENTS WHICH ARE SCHEDULED FOR NEAR FUTURE INCLUDE A METALLURGY PLANT (80 MEGAWATTS) AND AN ELECTRIC RAILROAD (20 MEGAWATTS). THESE AND OTHER POSSIBLE MAJOR PROJECTS ARE TO BE SERVED BY HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT ON BANDAMA MENTIONED IN PARA ONE ABOVE AT 210 MEGAWATTS AND SECOND HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT ATCONFLUENCE OF SASSANDRA AND NZO RIVERS AT BUYO WITH INSTALLED CAPACITY OF 174 MEGAWATTS.

4. COUNTRY WILL RELY ON INTERESTED PARTY TO PLACE FINANCING IN ATTRACTIVE WAY. IVORIAN DEBT SERVICE RATIO IS CURRENTLY AT ONLY 6 PERCENT AND IS NOT EXPECTED TO DETERIORATE QUICKLY.

5. FRENCH STANDARDS.

6. TRANSMISSION 90,000, SUB-TRANSMISSION 15,000, DISTRIBU-TION 380 AND 220.

7. THE IVORY COAST HAS NO LINKS WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, HOWEVER CONSIDERABLE INTREST EXISTS FOR A COMMON GRID WITH GHANA.

8. ABOUT 78 PERCENT OF 1973 PRODUCTION REQUIRED HEAVY FUEL OIL-3500 WHICH THE POWER DISTRIBUTION AUTHORITY PURCHASES AT 8000 CFA PER METRIC TON. THE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZES THIS PRICE WITH AN ADDITIONAL 5,640 CFA TON TO THE SUPPLIER. CONSUMPTION FOR 1973 WAS 122,143 TONS. OTHER FUEL CON-SUMED BY THERMAL POWER GENERATION TOTALLED 15,973 TONS OF 1500 FUEL OIL AT 19,182 CFA FRANCS PER TON AND 30,444 TONS OF DIESL FUEL AT 52 FRANCS PER LITER. (240 CFA: ONE DOL. U.S.). SUPPLY OF THESE FUELS FACILITATED BY IVORIAN REFINERY.

9. ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE. DIAMANTI

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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EO Systematic Review
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